

41 1949

~~center~~ Negroes Play First Time  
In Bridge-League Event

New York, March 22 (AP)—Negroes competed in an American Contract Bridge League event last night for the first time in the league's 21 years. Four Negro women from the Municipal Bridge League played as a record number of 29 industrial teams entered the two-session competition. They were Geraldine Gibson, Doris Brooke, Kay Gregoire, and Elair Morris, all of New York City.

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~~center~~ Dothan, Ala., Votes  
Negro Pool Approval  
~~center~~ *Dothan, Ala.*

DOTHON, Ala.—By a slim majority of 197 votes, citizens approved a recreation program here March 1 for both Negro and white groups. The vote was 1,227 to 1,030.

Swimming pools and playgrounds will be built out of the \$100,000 appropriation.

Morris B. Malone, bank official, was elected to a position on the City Commission in a surprise show of strength in a field of five candidates.

Alabama



**New Recreation Center  
For Negroes in Tampa**

Tampa, Fla. — A new recreation center for Negroes of this city is now under construction. It is being sponsored by Recreation, Inc., an organization recently formed by Colored leaders of the City, with Dr. Reche R. Williams, Jr., as chairman of the Board of Directors.

The Center is located in a beautiful section formerly known as Oak Springs Park. The development will include a stone block and steel auditorium and gymnasium, a modern swimming pool, a lounge, tennis courts, shuffle board courts, snack bar, sand play pens for small children.

The gymnasium will seat two thousand people as spectators witnessing basket ball, indoor tennis, boxing, roller skating and dancing. Mayor Curtis Hixon has fully endorsed the project.

**American Beach, Florida,  
Offers Land Opportunities**

AMERICAN BEACH, Florida—Bordering several miles on the Atlantic Ocean is beautiful AMERICAN BEACH, where smooth driving is permissible daily along the Beach front into the nearby City of Fernandina, Florida, on the North and to the Fishing Inlets and Nassau Sound on the South.

The Florida State Highway Department in cooperation with the Fernandina Port Authority is now constructing a \$16,000,000.00 Bridge and Highway Project bordering American Beach Properties on the West, and providing a 35-minute drive over a scenic highway from Jacksonville to the Beach.

This ideal location was found by the late Dr. A. L. Lewis, who fore-saw the possibility of an all-Colored Township development which would serve not only as an enticing Vacation Spot, but an all-year-round residential site, due to the excellent climate, water and recreational facilities. The Afro-American Pension Bureau, Owner and Developer of American Beach, has spent Thousands of Dollars in the building of this modern, restful environment. At present a 22-Apartment MOTEL is being constructed for the use in 1950 of persons not desiring to buy and build on their own property.

Last week, announcement was made by J. T. Betsch, Executive Vice-President, that sixty (60) choice Ocean front lots have just been made ready for purchase by the public. All of these lots are high and dry and have been leveled and surveyed with permanent monuments establishing boundaries and lines adjacent to streets. A Time-Payment Plan for those desiring lots has been arranged.

Any inquiries concerning this Project may be addressed to the Afro-American Pension Bureau, 103 Union Street, Jacksonville, Fl.

## Marietta's Good Program

A few months ago residents of Marietta voted a \$675,000 bond issue—\$400,000 on a hospital, \$200,000 for schools and \$75,000 for recreation.

When Mariettans approved that \$75,000 recreation item they did so knowing that a large part of it would be used for play facilities for Negroes, principally a swimming pool.

That ~~for~~ <sup>Atlanta, Ga.</sup> Negroes is finished now, ready for use this Summer. *3-28-49*

In addition, the city has completed for the Negroes an athletic field and it has set up new playgrounds for them.

The Marietta Junior Welfare League has established a branch library for Negro children.

White and colored population working together have planned, built and equipped a 20-bed Negro hospital that is now in operation.

Segregation laws are still in force in Marietta as they are throughout the South.

But the white residents of Marietta evidently believe in meeting the Negroes half way when it comes to an equal right, to recreation, to better health, to better living and to happiness. *Moss.*

That's the kind of "rights" program that needs universal support. It is simple and easy to do—requiring only the will to do it. *3-28-49*

## Negro Recreation Plot Offered Yardville Group

Intense public interest in civic improvement aroused by the three Atlanta Yardville projects may bring to Atlanta another public playground.

Land valued at approximately

\$10,000 in the heart of a crowded Negro residential area yesterday was offered to the Atlanta Yardville Committee as a gift from C. W. Orr, Negro owner and operator of the Fraser Street Market.

All the Yardville Committee has

to do is agree to have a playground

for Negro children constructed in

the area, which is two and one-half

acres in size and bounded by a

ripping stream on one side and

by Hedge Road, Bush Mountain,

Oakland Avenue, S. W. on the

other. *Jun. 4-24-49*

"We definitely will find some

means of working with Orr on

this matter," Mrs. Lucille Huff-

man, Chairman of the Atlanta

Yardville Committee, stated, "and

feel his interest in the proposed

playground is indeed a fine

thought and gesture."

Information regarding the offer has been turned over to the Yardville Development and Locations subcommittee where the proposal, which will serve more than 500 children in the neighborhood, will be studied.

Orr, who resides at 639 Fraser St., S. E., said he had plans for building a community center for the younger Negro children and teen-agers. "They have no place for recreation," he said, "and I thought if I could receive help to build this center in materials from Atlanta business and professional men, my plans for helping Negro youth which have been so long postponed because of lack of adequate finances, will become a reality."

Labor for the youth hall already has been promised by the high school students as well as grown-ups in the area, so it is a question of getting the materials which now are too high for us to afford, he added.

As a kid on a tenant farm near Covington, he asserted, he had always promised himself that if the Lord ever enabled him to get any property, he would use it to help children of his race.

"I have long wanted to do this, and already have built a few swings and chairs for the kids to use, but always have been unable

to finish the project because of high prices.

"And when I read of the Atlanta Yardville Committee and that they were interested in our race and in improving living conditions among Atlanta's colored people, I knew the Lord had answered my prayers for help to assist the hundreds of kids in this area," he said.

The only thing he wants to re-

serve in the area is a spring which

boils out of the sands in this wood-

ed area, for, according to Orr, more

than 20 families from the neigh-

borhood bring their buckets to get

water. *Jun. 4-24-49*

"It is their only source of sup-

ply, and I do not want to take

away from these people who can-

not afford city water their means

of procuring this necessity.

"They have to walk, some of

them, almost half a mile in rain,

cold or sleet to get the water for

household use, and I certainly do

not want to add to their labors,"

he concluded, adding that most of

the time kids 12 years of age or

under carried the buckets.



10,000 IN LAND FOR NEGRO CHILDREN WHO

he wants to Atlanta or to whom ever will help by securing recreation facil-

to follow through with the develop-

ment. Orr has offered to them. The kids are seated on a

negro, who has

his property near the Bush make-shift merrymaking

Mountain School to the city of Atlanta for them.

# Bush Mountain Residents Given <sup>41 Ga.</sup> Playground Gift

Church Groups

Initiate Move

For Recreation

BY C. W. GREENLEA

Gomer W. Orr, Bush Mountain grocer who several months ago made a vain effort to give away \$10,000 worth of land, was ~~very happy~~ Friday after workmen had installed swings and playground equipment for the Bush Mountain kids. Mr. Orr owns a grocery store at 639 Fraser Street S. E. but lives in Bush Mountain.

*Atlanta Ga.*  
He had offered the land to the city of Atlanta "for use as a park for Negro children," but his offer had been rejected by the city parks commission.

*Daybreak*  
Previously he had asked several white groups to take the land and sponsor a park for the children. Members of the Federation of Women's Clubs, the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, and a West End Business Men's Club, all white groups had each in turn toyed with the idea and turned Orr down.

Finally, Mr. Orr had decided to keep the land himself and get Negro churches and organizations to contribute to the park project.

Allen Temple A. M. E. Church, Rev. R. H. Porter, pastor, and the Ladd Street Methodist Church, Rev. H. L. Fisher, pastor have led the organizations with substantial contributions.

*Oct. 10 - 1949*  
After some difficulty with the zoning commission, Orr's land was zoned for business and playground use, he told the Atlanta World, and he went ahead with his program in a small way.

Citizens and churches contributed amounts from twenty-five cents to one-hundred dollars to the project which has now reached the point of a large set of swings and a small pavilion.

## AREA FOR PUBLIC

Orr has extended an invitation to all churches in the Atlanta area to use the playground land for their outings. Wooded terrain, ball space, and picnic areas make the Orr property an ideal nearby spot for church and club outings.

The Bush Mountain section is located in the fourth ward division

of Atlanta, but citizens agree that it is perhaps the most neglected section within the city limits.

Recently, the Fairview Terrace Civic League, influential fourth ward unit of the Atlanta Negro Voters League headed by Prof. G. L. Chandler, voted to expand its organization to include the Bush Mountain area. C. J. Jackson represents the area in the Voters League.

## NO SCHOOL TOILETS

Bush Mountain citizens point out that the Orr property is the only recreational facility in the section. There are no paved streets, no street lights, and no city water.

Even the Bush Mountain city school, operated by the Atlanta Board of Education, does not have inside toilets or running water.

At its meeting a week ago, the Atlanta Negro Voters League adopted a resolution to "help the Bush Mountain citizens with their community problems."

Orr said Friday that contributions for the playground area are still welcomed declaring that it will take about \$4,000 to make a first class play area at Bush Mountain.



**BUSH MOUNTAIN KIDS CELEBRATE** — C. W. Orr left, Bush Mountain Grocer, rejoices with a group of kids over the installation of playground swings on Orr's land. Orr had offered to give the \$10,000 plot to anyone, including the city of Atlanta and several white business and Women's Clubs, if they would "make a playground out of it for Negro children". Orr's offer was turned down, however, and he asked churches and club groups to help him with the project.

## C. W. Orr Gives Playground. Youth Hall Planned Next

More than 10 acres of Negro playground at 971 Oakland Dr., S. W., will be open for inspection from 3 to 6 p. m. Sunday afternoon by C. W. Orr, owner of the Fraser Street Market.

The 10½-acre plot of land situated in a crowded Negro district has been opened by Orr "to provide recreational facilities for Negro children and teen-agers who otherwise would have no place to play."

Orr has bought swings and an old-fashioned merry-go-round for the playground and is working toward building a youth hall. Atlantans are invited to inspect the new park Sunday afternoon.

### New Faculty Members

Three new faculty members have been appointed in the Department of Fine Arts at Spelman College, and Miss Grace Preston, formerly of the business office, has been named Assistant Treasurer by the Board of Trustees.

The new faculty members are Miss Ella Mae Bowman and Miss Jacqueline Larkins, both in the Music Department; and Miss Austella Walden, Art Department.

Eight new members have been added to the college staff. They are Miss Esther Mae Perrin, as Assistant in Biology; Mrs. Audrey Daniels Powell, Assistant Librarian; Mrs. Helen Bell Robinson, Assistant in Treasurer's office; Miss Mable S. Dinkins, Administrative Staff; Mrs. Mable Stevens Burton, Mrs. Geraldine Chaney and Mrs. Mary B. Chute, Housemothers.

Mrs. Myrtle Bowers Davis and Henry Thomas have returned to their posts in the history and English Departments after a year's leave of absence to further their studies.

Miss Coragreen Johnston, of the English Department, has been granted a year's leave of absence to study at the University of Michigan.

### Joins Atlanta Faculty

Dr. Esther Milner has joined the faculty of Atlanta University. She will present courses in the field of Human Development and promote the research program of the school according to an announcement by Dr. J. Max Bond, Director of the School of Education.

### Pres. Beittel Speaker

A. D. Beittel, President of Tal-

ladega College, will be the speaker at the Spelman College Vesper Service at 3 p. m. today in Sisters Chapel. All friends of the college are invited.

### Pianist at Chapel

A talented young Atlanta pianist, Rebecca Jackson, was featured at the Spelman College Chapel Hour Wednesday. A 1948 graduate of Spelman College, Miss Jackson is now studying and serving as an accompanist to one of the violin teachers at the David Mannes School of Music in New York City.

### Seek Girl Scout Camp

More than 500 friends of the Girls Scouts are being asked to contribute toward the development of a camp for the city's Negro children, Mrs. B. E. Mays, Chairman of the Camp Development, has reported.

There are 30,000 Negro girls in Atlanta who would like to participate in the camping program, but at present only two camps with a capacity of 354 residents are open to them.

When \$10,000 is raised toward the program, an anonymous donor will give \$2,500, Mrs. Mays said. A total of \$30,000 is needed to establish an adequate camp, she said.

### New Music Director

J. DeKoven Killingsworth, head of the Department of Music of Clark College, was awarded the degree of Doctor of Music by Paul Quinn College at Waco, Texas Prof. Killingsworth is a former Director of Music for the Board of Education for Negroes of the Methodist General Conference. He taught at Sam Houston College, Rust College and Brinkley Junior College before coming to Clark.



Courier-Journal Photo.

ORGANIZATION of a Kentucky chapter of the American Recreation Society was charted yesterday at the Armory. Getting pointers from Wayne C. Sommer, Washington, the society's national secretary, are ~~David W. Gearin~~, Plymouth Settlement House, and Mrs. George Brakmeier, University of Louisville physical-education instructor, two of the five-member interim committee.

## Kentucky Recreation Society Planned At Conference Here

*Louisville, Ky.* The first step toward organization of a Kentucky Recreation Society was taken here yesterday. Recreation leaders from public and private agencies throughout the state met at the Armory and selected an organizing committee. *March 3-27-49* Wayne C. Sommer, Washington, spoke on the functions of the American Recreation Society, of which he is national secretary.

Another speaker, Jack Houlihan, assistant secretary of the Louisville Community Chest, told how the national society works with recreation leaders on the problems of their profession.

The organizing committee will meet here April 15 to consider a slate of officers, a constitution, and the possibility of affiliating with the national society.

Committee members are Dr. Earl Kaufman, University of

Kentucky, chairman; William Moore, Louisville City Recreation Division; Miss Zelma Moore, Lexington; Roy W. Griffin, Louisville Y.M.C.A.; Mrs. Sherrill Brakmeier, University of Louisville; Charles Vettiner, Jefferson County recreation superintendent; *March 3-27-49* Tyston L. Brittner, Lebanon, and Sommer, Washington, spoke on David W. Gearin, Plymouth Settlement House, Louisville.

Committee members are Dr. Earl Kaufman, University of

41 1949

Louisiana

### New Orleans Negroes Sue For Recreation

NEW ORLEANS — The use of golf links, picnic grounds, tennis courts and other recreational facilities of the New Orleans city park was petitioned for in Federal District Court by Marshall De-Nege and other Negroes last week.

41 1949

### \$100,000 Raised N. C. Teachers Near \$100,000 Goal

RALEIGH, N. C. — Saturday, May 21, Dr. W. E. Sharpe, a wealthy brain specialist of New York, will meet the N. C. Teachers at an outing which will take place on the "Hammocks" property, 4,500 acres of recreational area, which he has agreed to give to colored teachers in North Carolina.

Dr. Sharpe originally bequeathed the property to John and Gertrude Hurst, the latter a teacher in Onslow County who has served along with her husband as caretakers of the property for many years.

It was at Mrs. Hurst's insistence that he offered it to her fellow teachers.

*5-14-49*  
\$100,000 SOUGHT

The outing will feature a picnic, boat rides, tours of the estate and a financial roll call of local units. Dr. Sharpe will speak to the group about the future plans for the development of the "Hammocks."

More than \$62,000 has been raised by teachers in less than six months. The drive to raise \$100,000 was launched May 15, 1948. Dr. Sharpe has made the challenge that he will double what the teachers raise by matching dollar for dollar what the teachers report.

This money is being raised, not to buy the "Hammocks," but to make it usable.

May 21 will be the second pilgrimage that the teachers have made to the beautiful "Hammocks" estate. The attendance will be as large as the 2,000 who visited it May 15, last year.

North Carolina

41a 1949

Alabama

## Birmingham Pool The Coopers Has 5 Instructors Pittsburgh, Pa.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—This city now has five certified swimming instructors and three senior life guards for its only Negro public swimming pool.

Last week, George Randall, Oscar J. Catlin, L. C. Fisher, and William Beamon satisfied requirements set by the American Red Cross to qualify as swimming instructors. Mrs. Catherine Means, away in graduate school at the University of Wisconsin, had qualified the previous year.

Qualifying for senior life guards were Herbert Henderson, Andrew Lusk and Robert Fisher. Henderson will work at the Tuxedo Swimming Pool along with Mr. Randall.

Ala. 7-2-49

41a 1949

Arkansas

**Arkansas Town Donates  
Site for Negro Park**

NORTH LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—(ANP)—A six-acre tract for a Negro park and playground was dedicated on the east end last week by the North Little Rock City Council. In the meantime the council voted out \$3,000 for lights for a softball park in this area.

41a 1949

D.C.

Segregated Playground  
Ownership Questioned

The District Recreation Board yesterday voted to seek the Corporation Counsel's opinion on possible court action to determine whether the District or the Federal Government owns the land encompassing some segregated playgrounds.

The board's action, in effect, bypassed a request by Edward J. Kelly, representing the Interior Department's National Capital Parks.

Wed 11-9-49  
Kelly had asked that the board request a court determination of the question.

Instead, the board voted merely to ask the Corporation Counsel his opinion as to whether it should ask such court action and refused to back down from its contention that the District and not the Federal Government owns the land.

If the Interior position is upheld it would end racial segregation.

Interior along with the Recreation Board, the District Commissioners and the Board of Education are being sued by five Negro mothers for an injunction to permit their children to use any public recreation facility here.

Recreation Board Chairman Harry S. Wender declared Interior Secretary J. A. Krug should himself ask the court for such a determination if he wishes. But, said Wender, the recreation unit is bound by the Corporation Counsel's ruling that the land is District property, paid for by District funds.

Interior's solicitor ruled the land was Federal and Krug asked the Attorney General 14 months ago for a ruling. No ruling has been handed down and it has been hinted none will be. Wender said yesterday "we're naive enough to believe the Attorney General hasn't rendered an opinion in order not to embarrass Interior."

Kelly said the resolution he offered might help "pry" an opinion out of the Justice Department.

# Discrimination Barred In Nat'l Capital Park Police

## Interior Sec'y Krug Announces FEP Order

WASHINGTON Sat. 5-28-49 Secretary of the Interior J. A. Krug has announced that an order has been issued directing the National Capital Park Police to eliminate discrimination because of race, color, religion or national origin in all its personnel actions.

The order is part of the findings of the Fair Employment Committee of Department officials appointed under Executive Order No. 9980 to hear complaints of segregation and discrimination against Negro officers of the Park Police.

In respect to the principal Fair Employment grievance, the Park Police force will hereafter make all assignments to cruiser car and cruiser car relief duty without regard to race or color and all such cruiser car assignments will be on a periodic rotation basis so that no cruiser beat shall be or become a Negro beat. A number of other discriminations in assignment, detail or duty were ordered terminated and several of the original charges were withdrawn.

### ACT ON RECOMMENDATION

The corrective action was taken in the approval, by Acting Secretary Oscar L. Chapman, of a report and recommendations by a five-member Fair Employment Committee composed of Department officials.

The Committee, with Dan H. Wheeler, Fair Employment Officer of the Department presiding, heard the grievances in a formal hearing on April 11, with the three complainants, Privates Julius Campbell, Willie C. Mason and Grant Wright and officials of the National Capital Parks and the National Park Service testifying. The police officers appeared as complainants in behalf of all Negro members of the Park Police. The original complaint was also signed by Lloyd W. Chish-

It was with real pleasure that I learned sometime ago of the Board of Recreation's decision to open the 18 tennis courts for the use of all applicants on a first-come-first-served basis regardless of race, creed or color.

I am heartened also by the decision of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission to remove racial designations from its "master plan," thus clearing the way for the Board of Recreation to make its own decision with regard to the use of playgrounds, school meeting facilities and areas under its control.

People unfortunate enough to live near a playground which is closed to them, because of its racial designation, must spend time and money traveling to some other area. And on grounds of common sense and moral principle a segregated system is undesirable and unjust.

I believe joint use of all recreational facilities is feasible and will contribute to the public welfare. The experience on the Federally controlled recreation areas shows that people of all races are mingling voluntarily and freely without disorder or friction—also in private places of recreation such as Griffith Stadium, Uline Arena and Constitution Hall. *Mon. 5-16-49*

Now that the way has been opened, I earnestly hope that the Board of Recreation will move forward courageously to end segregation in all facilities under its control.

CYNTHIA B. ANTHONSEN.  
Washington

### Quakers' Aid Offer Accepted

## Nonsegregation to Get Test At 2 Playgrounds Next Week

By Chalmers M. Roberts  
*Washington Post Reporter*

Despite pressure to end segregation in all its activities, the Recreation Board is expected next Tuesday to set up an experimental program of two nonsegregated playgrounds.

The latest call for a complete end to segregation came yesterday from Assistant Interior Secretary C. Girard Davidson. He released a letter sent Tuesday to Recreation Board Chairman Harry S. Wender which said Davidson assumes the board "will now completely eliminate racial segregation." *Mon. 5-6-49*

Basis of this and other similar letters was the action a week ago of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission in eliminating all racial designations from its recreation system map.

Davidson said representatives of the Recreation Board stated the board was "compelled" by the planning commission designations to continue segregation.

Wender last night would not comment on this latest exchange with Davidson. But it is known he is not the only board member who feels there are other legal justifications than the map for segregated playgrounds.

"No, we are simply taking these designations off the map," he said. "The resolution 'explains itself.'

General Grant said that he did not think the action of the General Grant declined to state Mastin G. White's opinion, now before Attorney General Tom Clark, in which White stated that the

Federal Government could impose conditions, including a ban against the racial designation be abolished to state Mastin G. White's opinion, now before Attorney General Tom Clark, in which White stated that the

Federal Government could impose a policy. I told Representative Klein on the subject of segregated playgrounds purchased with the 1926 Act with making a corporation counsel, Vernon West,

"That opinion was always a matter of control of areas, rather than a race question with us," said General Grant.

The NCPPC action puts the Recreation Board in the middle of the segregated playground question. Last October, the Board of Education declared that the commission's decision squarely in favor of segregated playgrounds was a "victory for desegregation." Assistant Secretary of the NCPPC said last night that the commission's decision was a "victory for desegregation." "That opinion was always a matter of control of areas, rather than a race question with us," said General Grant.

It liked with school space.

### Recreation Board Gets Choice On Playground Segregation

By Dorothée Andrews  
*Post Reporter*

The District Recreation Board yesterday was given the power to end playground segregation in Washington playgrounds.

Whereas the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, which announced it is removing all racial designations from its recreation system map, the Recreation Board does not require by any act of Congress to make or to maintain racial distinction in its plans or maps, nor is such determination a part of its function.

Therefore, it is moved that the Commission revise its Recreation Board System map by eliminating all mocracy." The District Recreation Board yesterday was given the power to end playground segregation in Washington playgrounds.

Assistant Secretary of the NCPPC said last night that the commission's decision was a "victory for desegregation." "That opinion was always a matter of control of areas, rather than a race question with us," said General Grant.

It liked with school space.

Administrative matter, for decision

by the agency which operates the playgrounds, he said.

Wording of Resolution

The formal resolution of the Commission stated:

The Recreation Board has scheduled a meeting for May 10 at which it is to consider the problem of maintaining or ending segregation on school meeting facilities.

Last month, the Recreation Board declared as "open units" 18 local tennis courts, situated on Federal park lands, which previously had been operated on a segregated basis.

The action was taken in compliance with an Interior Department order.

Harry S. Wender, chairman of the District Recreation Department, has consistently maintained that the segregated system of recreation which the board operates was based on a law which adopted the NCPPC plan of recreation, providing dual facilities for whites and Negroes.

The Recreation Board now administers between 110 and 115 recreation units, both for whites and Negroes, during a given year. All are affected by the NCPPC action.

**Capital Swimming Pool Closed; Five Held**

WASHINGTON, June 30 — (AP) — A government swimming pool which had disturbances when opened to both white and Negro youths has been closed.

Secretary Krug of the Interior Department, which operates the pool, ordered it closed until further notice. He acted after a pool-side melee a second straight day yesterday.

Park police said hundreds were involved in the pushing and punching outside the Anacostia pool in Southeast Washington.

At least four youths were injured, one a girl trampled by a mounted policeman's horse. There were five arrests.

The Interior Department's order of a no-segregation policy at its four pools caused a rift with the District of Columbia Recreation Board. The board insisted segregation be continued.

Negroes have begun swimming at only one other pool, McKinley. There has been no trouble there.

**Six Negroes Booed Out of Anacostia Pool**

Members of Race Was Deprived of Using Facilities 4 Times

Six Negro youths from 14 to 21 years old were splashed and hooted of the Government-controlled

Anacostia pool yesterday, after swimming there for less than five minutes. *Man. 6-27-49*

It was the fourth consecutive day in which Negroes have tried to swim in the pool, which until last Thursday has been used exclusively by whites.

The contract between the Interior Department and Government Services, Inc., which operates Anacostia and five other District pools, provides that anyone can swim in any pool regardless of race.

#### Hundreds Watch Eviction

Between 700 and 800 white persons of all ages witnessed the proceedings, with approximately 50 taking an active part in evicting the Negroes from the pool.

Admission fees were refunded to the seven youths by order of R. J. McCarthy, director of park activities for GSI. McCarthy insisted the Negroes be admitted over the strong verbal protests of bystanders.

The first two Negroes to swim in the pool yesterday afternoon were James Gasha, 417 7th st. se. and James Hamilton, 510 E st. se. both 14. Shortly after jumping in, they were surrounded by a small group of white boys who splashed water into their faces and drove them to the side of the pool. There, a horseshoe of perhaps 50 booted until the Negroes left. Extra police help was summoned, but not used.

One hour later, four Negroes appeared in the pool, Kenneth Robinson, 20, of 2635 Bowen rd. se.; Eugene Scott, 14, 2521 High st. se., and Richard Cook, 21, and Carl Contee, 14, both of 2639 Bowen rd. se. A fifth youth did not swim. These swimmers were also splashed by persons jumping and diving into their midst. They left a few minutes after they arrived.

Last Thursday a small group of Negro children first tried to swim at Anacostia. They left before they entered the pool. Friday between 50 and 60 did swim in the pool. Saturday, a similar number started swimming. The life-guards asked to be relieved, saying they feared they might not be able to handle disturbances. Number off Sharply

Since the attempt to end segregation, the number of swimmers has fallen off sharply at Anacostia. Normally 1500 swimmers are handled daily, but the number has been "away off" since Thursday, McCarthy said yesterday. *Man. 6-27-49*

Although the six GSI-managed pools are unsegregated by law, in practice Negroes regularly use

Banneker and Francis pools, and until recently whites have used Takoma, East Potomac, McKinley and Anacostia.

Negroes have recently been swimming at McKinley, at 2d and T sts. ne., but the management there reported yesterday a "marked slump" in business.

All Negro youths at Anacostia yesterday said they had tried to swim in the pool because it was nearer their homes and they had read that the pool was supposed to be unsegregated.

#### D. C. Swimming Pools

Two weeks ago the Recreation Board announced a policy of gradual abandonment of segregation. We applauded this as "a discreet but a statesmanlike compromise," likely to be criticized by both extremes.

As specific steps away from segregation

the Recreation Board has placed two inter-

racial playgrounds under the supervision

of the Society of Friends and opened public

schools and recreation buildings to inter-

racial meetings. Both steps are supported

by those elements necessary for orderly

community adjustment. They were launched

by the local agency in charge of recreation;

they were adopted in an atmosphere con-

ducive to general public acceptance; they

will be carried out by staffs anxious to make

them successful.

Just the opposite seems to us the case in

regard to the Interior Department's in-

sistence on immediate nonsegregation of

swimming pools under its jurisdiction. The

department's representative on the Recre-

ation Board failed to win support of its

position in the board. Instead of educa-

tional preparation to win public acceptance,

the policy appears to the average citizen to

have resulted from a disorderly fight be-

tween Federal and District governmen-

ties. Instead of having a staff sym-

pathetic to its policy and capable of carry-

ing it out, Interior has no staff at all.

Despite these circumstances, the good

sense of the great majority of our white

and Negro citizens and the alert work of

the Metropolitan and Park Police had kept

disorders in the category of minor disturb-

ances until fighting broke out yesterday in

Anacostia. We hope that good sense will

prevail—despite the provocations of Wal-

laceites and their counterparts, the bitter-

end bigots. But, in view of what happened,

the wise course for the time being is to do

what Secretary Krug has just done—close

the pool.

*Man. 6-30-49*

The community also deserves more

thoughtful handling of its affairs at the policy-making level. In the past we have urged the Federal Government to take the lead in lowering segregation barriers, but when it does so it should obviously act in those fields where its responsibility is clear and its facilities adequate. The Interior Department, along with other friends of orderly interracial progress, could properly insist that the Recreation Board honestly pursue its announced policy of making "every possible and realistic effort toward the removal of racial segregation in public recreation in such sequence and at such rate of progression as may be consistent with the public interest, public order and effective administration."

#### "D. C. Swimming Pools"

It does not appear that guard personnel sympathetic to swimming pool disturbance in this program or informing the of a grave nature such as to white swimmers that this was a threaten the peace and security Government pool and therefore of the community were but fore open to all people. The were true that it would be Civic associations, white and colored unsafe to open the pools on a red, in this community were never closed basis, it appears asleep in this respect also.

Disturbances like the above only come from a sore point or something being wrong. The point here was and is a lack of swimming facilities for the colored in the Southeast.

CHARLES E. QUALLS.

Washington

Prejudice can be wiped out only by honest, intelligent and can think of no more simple way forthright leadership in both, to maintain segregation than for that matter, in all races. Nest those who are opposed to it to gores must continue to have the be in a position where they can patience of Job. They cannot themselves create the threat tear down, in one fell swoop the of danger and thereby deprive prejudice that built up century Negroes of their rights. It is by century. There will be trying times for everyone until there are citizens in the Nation's Capital who are so depraved. It is more unthinkable that the can be lessened by courageous community and the Recreation Board should be victimized by such tactics.

U. SIMPSON TATE, Regional Special Counsel, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Washington

Your editorial of June 30, 1949, put the finger on some pertinent facts. The Interior Department has been impartial in allowing the use of recreational facilities to all the people in the District under its jurisdiction. They are to be commended.

DAVID DARRIN. Washington

White attacks upon Negroes at swimming pools are as much a form of violent overthrow of our Government as any Communist can advocate. Let us maintain existing laws against such violence. If the laws are bad; let us amend them by orderly processes of law.

They, however, in the recent swimming pool disturbances in Anacostia, did not plan for this by having adequate police and

Interior Acts After Disturbance

# Anacostia Swimming Pool Ordered Closed Indefinitely

The Anacostia swimming pool of distributing anti-segregation handbills. *The Post*

The action was taken by Secretary of Interior Julius A. Krug after disturbances occurred at the pool on two successive days.

Special squads of Park and Metropolitan police surrounded the pool last night to prevent a recurrence of a disturbance during the afternoon which resulted in the arrest of five persons and the injury of three others.

No incident occurred in the pool during the 7 p. m. to 9 p. m. night session. Outside the pool, a crowd of white youths chased a white girl whom they believed to be a Wallaceite for several blocks until she was taken into protective custody by police. She was not immediately identified, but was released. *Washington D.C.*

The afternoon disturbance was quieted about 5 p. m. after about 50 police reinforced an initial detail of eight officers. *Thu. 6-30-49*

It involved Negro and white youths milling about the pool area while about 10 Negro and 10 white boys and girls were swimming in the pool.

Capt. Mark H. Raspberry, head of the Park Police, said scuffling broke out when a group of 70 Negro youths entered the swimming pool inclosure at the park in midafternoon. About 100 whites were there at the time.

The disturbance started initially when a Negro boy was cornered by a group of white youths. The Negro cut himself scaling a barbed wire-topped fence enclosing the pool area. Police separated the Negroes and whites who then left the pools. Fighting then developed outside the pool inclosure.

When order was restored, three persons were treated as Casualty Hospital for minor injuries and at least five persons were under arrest. Captain Raspberry estimated that 450 persons were involved in the affair altogether.

The Anacostia pool is one of six operated by Government Services, Inc., under a contract with the Interior Department which forbids segregation. *Thu. 6-30-49*

Those arrested and booked at the Eleventh Precinct Station House were:

Donald M. Long, 20, 5424 32d st. s.e., a white student. He posted \$5 and elected to forfeit on the charge

D.C.

At Garfield, Rose Park.

# Group of Friends Reports on 2 D. C. Interracial Playgrounds

By Benjamin Bradlee

Post Reporter

A team of 14 American Friends Service Committee workers today wind up a summer operating two District playgrounds on an interracial basis.

Joseph Jackono, 30, a white student. Posted \$5 collateral and elected to forfeit on the charge of distributing antisegregation handbills. Jackono said he and Long belong to the Young Progressives.

Thomas Ralph English, 40, a white social worker of 3000 30th st. se. He posted \$5 collateral and elected to forfeit on the charge of disorderly conduct apparently growing out of a scuffle with Jackono.

Toussaint P. Pierce, 22, a Negro student of 2564 Sheridan rd. se. He posted \$5 collateral on a charge of disorderly conduct and is to appear this morning in Municipal Court.

Pierce said he was arrested by a mounted policeman after he picked up a brick.

A 16-year-old Negro juvenile, who was released in the custody of his parents pending any action Juvenile Court authorities might wish to take. Police said he was arrested during a scuffle.

Among those injured was Joan Sexton, 17, of 1725 16th st. se., a white girl, who suffered a fracture of two toes when her foot was accidentally stepped on by a mounted Park policeman's horse. She fell beneath the horse. She was treated at Casualty Hospital and admitted for observation.

The horse was ridden by Park Police Pvt. Powhatan Daniels, to whom witnesses gave much of the credit for quieting the disturbance as he rode between the two groups outside the pool. *Thu. 6-30-49*

Park Police Pvt. Julius Campbell, 32, Negro, of 920 T st. nw., was treated at Casualty for contusions of the right forearm and released. Police said he had been struck by a stone.

Charles Watson, 21, Negro, 1107 Sumner rd. se., was given first aid at the park building when he cut his leg and foot while climbing out of the pool inclosure over the wire fence.

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On the negative side, Peacock freely admitted these shortcomings:

1. Attempts to develop an interracial program in the Garfield wading pool were unsuccessful, although the pool was used inter-

racially at times.

2. Baseball games between white and colored players over 17 had to be abandoned, when they developed into grudge games after the colored team went undefeated for two weeks.

3. White groups sometimes used the Garfield facilities and refused to admit Negroes.

Progress toward ending racial segregation was achieved with difficulty. Garfield and Rose Park workers were consistently approached by white groups who urged abandoning of the project, sometimes threateningly. These groups were most vehement after racial disturbances at Anacostia pool.

On the plus side of the ledger, Work Camp Director Daniel Peacock, 28 year old Indiana Friend, yesterday listed these accomplishments:

1. Every recreation activity, from Mardi Gras parades to softball games has been interracial.

2. White participation rose from less than eight per cent during the first week to more than 13 per cent last week at Garfield Park in an area with an estimated 25 per cent white population, and in a playground once divided into white and colored sections. Garfield represented the more difficult problem.

Peacock said the Friends had learned two lessons during the summer. The younger the children and the more supervision they get, he said, the easier it is to achieve interracial recreation harmony.

Peacock said the Friends had learned two lessons during the summer. The younger the children and the more supervision they get, he said, the easier it is to achieve interracial recreation harmony.

3. Initial neighborhood hostility to the project was substantially overcome. Children of white parents, who signed a petition objecting to the interracial playground before it started, were playing there yesterday.

4. No violence occurred during the summer.

5. Some equipment, candy and supervisory services were voluntarily provided by white parents.

Shortcomings Listed

On the negative side, Peacock freely admitted these shortcomings:

1. Attempts to develop an interracial program in the Garfield wading pool were unsuccessful, although the pool was used inter-



## Swim Pool Roundup

# U.S. Bows

## Again to the Courier Jim Crow. Washington, D. C.

(Special to The Courier)

**WASHINGTON** — The United States Government has once again bowed to Jim-crow traditions of the Washington, D. C. Recreation Board.

After taking direct action last week in closing down the Government-owned interracial Anacostia swimming pool after a series of racial disturbances which culminated with arrest of six persons and injury to four others, the Interior Department has now reached "an agreement" which will give the prejudiced board control of all public recreation facilities in Washington, including swimming pools and golf courses. *Sat. 7-9-49*

The board will also be given clear title to disputed playground areas.

In exchange for this brazen sell-out, the Recreation Board will furnish assurance "that it will work toward eventual elimination of segregation."

This is the substance of a formula for ending all the differences between the Interior Department and the D. C. Recreation Board.

And responsibility for the sell-out, which was agreed on over the week-end, is laid by Negroes here right smack in the lap of Interior Secretary Julius A. Krug.

It completely destroys the patient pattern of integration set up when Harold Ickes was Secretary.

The D. C. board recently announced a policy of making "every possible and realistic effort toward the removal of racial segregation in such sequence and at such rate of progression as may be consistent with the public interest, public order and effective administration."

But all those high-sounding words mean nothing. The board left intact its 1945 by-law requiring segregation.

Hints of this sell-out began to float around town Saturday after a conference between Interior heads, Recreation Board Chairman Harry S. Wender and the District Commissioners.

### MEETS JULY 12

"We have reached a substantial agreement which I hope the board will accept," Wender announced. He scheduled a meeting of the

board's by-laws committee for 11 a. m. Tuesday.

Proposals for by-law changes must be submitted seven days before the next stated board meeting. The board meets July 12.

The only chance for the nefarious scheme to be stopped will be a public demand from citizens throughout the nation. If sufficient pressure is brought on Secretary Krug, he can make to withdraw the Government's participation in the sell-out.

#### ABSOLUTE CONTROL

If the formula is accepted by the Recreation Board, it will take over control of nine golf courses, about eighty tennis courts, six swimming pools and city-wide recreation facilities in East and West Potomac Park, the Ellipse, Anacostia and Rock Creek Parks.

This means an extension of Jim Crow. Knowing the board's vast attitude, there can be no doubt of this.

Last April, in response to pressure by the Interior Department, the National Capital Park and Planning Commission removed all racial designations from its recreation system map, which had been used as a guide by the Recreation Board.

The board earlier had complied with Interior orders to end segregation at tennis courts controlled by the department.

It also offered to continue Interior's non-segregation policy on golf links in return for a chance to operate the links.

Now in the sell-out deal, these gains stand to be lost, since the board's present attitude favors "a graduate abolition of segregation."

## Hopes Held For Decision Soon in D. C. Pool Dispute

### Compromise Plan Reported Fixed By Interior and Recreation Board

Interior Department and recreation board officials met yesterday on the swimming pool question and there appeared to be some prospect of a settlement, perhaps next week. *Post 41*

A. E. Demaray, associate director of the National Park Service

and top Interior negotiator, said a 9-year-old colored boy came dashing into the meeting and would be presented to Interior Secretary J. A. Krug on his return to the city Monday. *Post 8-6-49*

Demaray said he "would hope" the proposal would lead to reopening Anacostia pool, closed by Krug June 29 after a racial disturbance there. Demaray said the discussion yesterday was on the assumption the Recreation Board would take over complete control of all six Interior pools. They might be taken over immediately, he added, or not until next summer since Government Services Inc. is running the pool half of each day on a contract basis. The Recreation Board runs them the other half of each day.

Recreation Board Superintendent Milo F. Christiansen said the two groups were "closer together than we've been for a long time" but he would not discuss details of the meeting. He said he saw a possibility of some action at the next Recreation Board meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, if Krug acts Monday.

The District board has consistently contended it would take over the pools on its own terms only—that they be returned to segregated status, four white and two Negro.

Krug, however, has stated he would permit "no backward step" apparently meaning he would not permit Anacostia and McKinley pools, where mixed swimming has taken place this summer, to revert to segregated use.

### 25 Mothers Ask Krug to Reopen Pool to All Races

A group of about 25 white and Negro mothers from the Anacostia and Congress Heights areas yesterday asked Interior Secretary J. A. Krug to "reopen the Anacostia pool on a nonsegregated basis."

They presented a letter for Krug to National Capital Parks Superintendent Irving C. Root. The group said it expected "determined enforcement" of Interior's nonsegregation policy with supervision "of an adequate and fully trained police force composed of both white and Negro officers, prepared to quell any attempted hoodlumism."

Anacostia pool has been closed since June 29. Efforts to reach an agreement for turning it and five other Interior-controlled pools over to the District Recreation Board so far have failed.

#### Segregation's Toll

On August 16, as I was driving by Sherwood Playground at

9th and G st. ne, a little 5-year-old colored boy came dashing after me and ran into the side of my car.

At the hospital I asked his father why the boy was playing outside the playground and not inside. He answered that his little boy wants to play inside but is not being permitted because of the color of his skin.

He said further that his little boy sneaks over and plays just outside on the narrow sidewalk, where he can be seen by the children, swings and sand pile that he yearns to play with. It was from that narrow sidewalk that the child ran into my car.

Why must innocent children suffer and be hurt physically as well as emotionally by undemocratic policies in this heart of the world's democracy?

MILTON H. ARONSON.  
Washington.

41a 1949

Florida

**Florida City Council  
Okays Bathing Beach**

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla.—A bathing beach for Negroes at Maximo Park ~~has been~~ approved by the city council, and a special interracial committee has been appointed to develop plans for it. Members are the Rev. J. Wallace Hamilton, Dean Mohr, Edward McRae, Walter Rausenre and H. J. Falk.

Mayor Blackburn suggested that 50 acres be allotted. It is hoped the beach will be ready for use this summer, and that it will accommodate not only Pinellas county, but Tampa as well.

41a 1949

Florida

## New Recreation Park Opens Near Ocala



While Park Manager Eddie Vereen looks on at left, Dr. E. C. Hampton, president of the Ocala Women's Federation and Convention, congratulates the Rev. Oliver Pinkston, representing the owners, on the opening of Paradise Park. The Rev. L. N. Anderson, vice moderator of the Second Bethlehem Baptist Association is at right. Paradise Park, an exclusive new recreation area, is seven miles east of Ocala. It features glass-bottomed boat rides, bathing, picnicking, and the world-famed Ross Allen Reptile Institute.

# \$75,000 Pool for Negroes Completed at Marietta

With the completion of a sumptuous swimming pool valued at \$75,000, Marietta had rounded out what city officials believe to be one of the best balanced educational, recreation and cultural programs for Negroes in the nation.

The new swimming pool is equipped with one of the finest filtering systems available and its bath houses are considered models in both health and efficiency. *Mar. 18-49*

A 50x120-foot layout, it will be opened to Negroes of Marietta for the first time this Summer.

Still other recreational features of Marietta's program for Negroes is a recently completed Athletic Field with bleacher seating accommodations. *Mar. 17-49*

The city further has graded and equipped new playground areas for its Negro population.

On the cultural side, two new Negro library units have been added. Educational-wise, a modern high school has been built.

A new 20-bed hospital is still another feature of the program.

In advancing the program city officials worked with Negro ministers, educators and civic leaders. *Atlanta, Ga.*

## MARIETTA NEGROES GET \$75,000 SWIMMING POOL

The "big break" has come for Marietta Negroes who desire wholesome recreation and the great outdoors with the construction of a \$75,000 swimming pool and the extension of facilities for well-balanced educational, cultural and recreational programs. *Mar. 17-49*

The whole idea was launched by city officials with the cooperation of Negro ministers, educators and civic leaders. However, the whole community stands to benefit from the new program designed to fit the leisure time habits of Marietta citizens. *Atlanta, Ga.*

One commendable feature of the new recreational program is the new swimming pool equipped with one of the finest filtering systems available. For the convenience and comfort of swimmers a large bath-house has been added which will heighten the efficiency and protect the health of users. *Mar. 18-49*

A 50 x 120-foot layout, the whole plant will be opened this summer for the first time. *Mar. 18-49*

Yet Marietta is going even further in providing for the health and welfare of its citizens. An athletic field with bleacher seating accommodations will be an outlet for baseball, softball and next fall football activities.

Other playgrounds have been graded and equipped to further provide opportunities for play for all age levels and groups.

On the cultural side, two new Library units has been added. A brand-new high school, and a new 20-bed hospital. All of these features are designed for wholesome and better living and recreation activities for Marietta citizens.

swimming pool is completed sometime about Aug. 15, it will be the only one properly equipped."

## New Negro Park Pool To Be Best Equipped

By HERMAN HANCOCK

The new \$300,000 Negro Park being built in the Pittsburgh area of Atlanta will have the only completely modern and mechanized swimming pool operated by the city.

That yesterday was the verdict asserted, "and we take periodic samples of water from the pools to make bacteriological tests. We have never yet found a bacterial count in excess of 100 per cubic centimeter, which is considered scientifically sterile."

Dr. Hackney said there is a suspicion that polio might be contracted from swimming, but that thus far none has been traced to Atlanta pools. He said typhoid definitely could be contracted from "dirty water," but added the City's typhoid record fails to bear out any suspicion that City pools have spread the disease. *Mar. 6-30-49*

He cited records of typhoid cases to bolster his contention. They follow:

No case of typhoid has been reported in Atlanta thus far this year. Other years showed: eight cases in 1948; 13 in 1947; one in 1946; six in 1945; three in 1944. The last year in which more than 15 cases were reported in Atlanta was 1936 when 17 were listed.

"We have been unable to trace a single case of typhoid to Atlanta pools," Dr. Hackney said. *Mar. 6-30-49*

Simons said he and those responsible for the operation of the pools have urged installation of water purification systems in existing pools, but the funds have not been available. He said such a system would not only be an insurance against contamination but also would conserve water, since the same water could be used over and over after being mechanically purified and chemically treated. *Mar. 6-30-49*

Graydon said all City parks concessions are inspected more regularly than restaurants and they have to measure up to the same sanitation standards.

"We intend to keep this up," he said. When the new Negro

every precaution possible to see

By Larry Boeck and entertainment facilities on account of their race or color...."

# Negro Recreation Program Improving

*Louisville Journal* Louisville, Ky., July 5-16-49

## Supervisor Stresses Need for Golf

When she had gotten her breath back after reciting her title, Mrs. Frances Murrell Parrish had many things to say that were important as well as interesting.

Mrs. Murrell is—and don't say we didn't warn you—"Supervisor of Activities for Negroes for the City of Louisville Division of Recreation."

Having thus disposed of enough breath to weaken even two-miler Gil Dodd, she began by saying that the Negro recreation program here has been improving considerably.

### More Playgrounds.

This year, for instance, there are 15 playgrounds. That's twice as many as last year. Activities, too, have multiplied and improved to a point where the Negro program is on fairly solid footing.

She spoke slowly, afraid, it seemed, to convey the impression she was boasting over her own efforts.

### Uphill Fight.

A modest, lively woman, she doesn't have to exaggerate. Figures and accomplishments for the last six years, her tenure of office, speak for themselves.

While she spoke, telling of the uphill fight for improvements and some of the happy results, she was careful not to leave the impression that the Negro program still has everything it needs.

There is, for instance, the big problem of getting a golf course. The city doesn't have a single one for adults who find other activities too strenuous or not appealing.

### Making Progress

There also is need for improving tennis and swimming facilities and of providing several good baseball diamonds.

"The progress we've been making in our community center and playground programs has been extremely encouraging," said Mrs. Parrish, who studied at University of Chicago, Howard University, Michigan and Columbia. She

## Course and Good Baseball Diamonds

# Negroes' Parks-Use Suit Is Filed In Federal Court

## Newest Step In Long Segregation Row Here

### Initiated by Sweeney and 2 Other Plaintiffs

*Louisville Journal* Louisville, Ky., July 5-16-49

Federal Court was asked yesterday to determine the rights of Negroes to use Louisville City parks, playgrounds, and recreational facilities.

This newest step in the long dispute over segregation policies was taken by Dr. P. O. Sweeney, Negro dentist, 524

W. Walnut, and two other plaintiffs. Their suit asks:

1. That the court rule on the rights of Negroes to share those parks playgrounds and the Amphitheatre in Iroquois Park which now are reserved solely for white persons.

2. That a permanent order be issued forbidding City officials from denying Negroes the privileges enjoyed by whites in those places. The defendants in this action are City Park Director T. Byrne Morgan, Mayor Charles Farnsley, and the Louisville Park Theatrical Association, which operates the Amphitheatre.

Joined with Sweeney as plaintiffs are Mona Carroll, 14, daughter of Alfred M. Carroll, 2530 W. Walnut, and James W. Muir, 1730 W. Walnut.

The suit is based on the 14th Amendment of the U. S. Constitution which guarantees citizens equal protection under the laws, and on certain sections of U. S. laws.

### Couldn't Play Golf.

Three cases were built up recently for the purpose of the suit, the complaint reveals.

Dr. Sweeney applied at the Cherokee Golf Course July 21 for a ticket, the suit said, and offered to pay the fees to play, but was prevented from playing and his fee was refused.

The Carroll child sought to fish in Cherokee Park Lake and was refused permission to fish or remain on the grounds.

Muir applied at the Amphitheatre for a ticket, the suit said, and was refused a ticket or the right to hear the show.

These denials were made arbitrarily and illegally, the suit asserts.

The suit says the City maintains for Negroes "five alleged parks with a total acreage of 153.81 and limits plaintiffs and other Negroes similarly situated, because of their race or color, to the use of these inadequate, unsanitary, and incomplete facilities."

### 23 Parks for Whites.

The City has 23 other parks of 2,267.5 acres, the complaint adds.

These, it continues, are "located to a great extent, in the beautiful outlying areas of the City of Louisville on premises naturally suited for recreation, and contain among other things, five golf courses of varying types, an amphitheatre, numerous pavilions,

many acres of woodland, provisions for winter sports, such as skiing and ice skating, at least one lake for fishing, facilities for archery, and well-cared-for swimming pools and attendant facilities...."

The plaintiffs are denied all these facilities, the suit said.

In the decree asked for, the suit seeks to have declared as

unconstitutional "the policy, custom, usage, and practice of establishing, maintaining, and operating modern, well-staffed, and equipped facilities for the recreation, entertainment, and athletic participation of white youths

while at the same time limiting Negro youths to the use of old, dilapidated, poorly equipped, understaffed athletic recreation,

### First Suit Dismissed.

Sweeney filed a suit of like type in Jefferson Circuit Court in 1947. It was dismissed there and by the State Court of Appeals. July 5 was the last day the suit could have been appealed to the Supreme Court. Sweeney said he let the deadline go by deliberately so that the new suit could be filed.

Attorneys Benjamin F. Shobe and James A. Crumlin filed the Federal Court action. Shobe also filed the Circuit Court suit.

Federal Judge Roy M. Shelbourne told Shobe and Crumlin that a three-judge court would have to hear the plea for the injunction against the City officials. Another Federal District Court judge and a Circuit Court judge are required.

Shelbourne said he would write immediately to Judge Xen Hicks, Knoxville, senior member of the Sixth U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals, asking him to designate the latter two.

*Carries Journal*  
**Minorities Still Need  
Police Protection**

*Montgomery*  
**HURRIED** inexorably along by federal court decisions and a growing public recognition of the injustices of segregation, many municipalities are voluntarily abolishing their restrictive rules against full Negro participation in community life. This newspaper applauds each instance of a removal of restrictions that is accepted in good faith by the majority of law-abiding citizens and it looks forward to the day when Louisville too will grant to its colored citizens the rights and privileges that community custom and state laws now ban.

But the recent experiences of St. Louis, Washington and Youngstown strengthen our contention that when such steps are taken without adequate preparation or community acceptance, the cause of racial friendship is set back, and ugly situations scar otherwise peaceful relations. In each of these cities violent scenes developed when Negroes attempted to use swimming pools ordinarily patronized only by whites. In Washington and St. Louis restrictive ordinances appear to have been lifted without warning or discussion and seemingly without provision of the extra police protection that common sense should have indicated would be needed.

Youngstown is one of the northern cities ostensibly free from segregation ordinances, but when a colored family attempted to use one of five swimming pools maintained by the city for common use, a threatening crowd drove the Negroes away and forced closing of the pool. Obviously the problem is not, as many individuals of both races have contended, one easy to solve by the simple waving down of obsolete and unfair barriers. Prejudice has deep roots in the human heart and mind and these cannot be eradicated simply by stating that prejudice is against the law. *7-1-49*

The day certainly will come when Negroes and whites may play and swim together, as they do now in some cities, with no more friction than arises between any other human beings in close proximity. It is not here yet, except in areas where education and careful preparation have combined to produce acceptance of racial tolerance. The evidence is that no careful preparation preceded St. Louis' and Washington's impulsive lifting of restrictions and also that city authorities were dangerously careless, once the decision had been taken, about providing protection against hoodlumism for those who took advantage of the relaxation. We are, obviously, still far from the millennium if policemen are needed to enforce the rights guaranteed to minorities under the law. But it is better to admit we are not perfect than to incite riot and bloodshed on the assumption that perfection can be induced by signing a law.

## Mississippi Negro Rural Center Dedicated



Enterprise Journal  
McComb, Miss.

41a  
H.W.

Mar. 31-49

Contractor H. H. Wolfe (left at top) hands over the keys to directors at dedication of the Mississippi Rural Center for Negroes at Columbia. The directors at right are Isaac Pittman and his wife. The Center (bottom), a \$100,000 gymnasium, auditorium and community quarters, was built by women of the Methodist church for the Negroes of Marion county. Leaders of both races in the Methodist church gathered for the dedication ceremony. The Center is the first of its kind in the nation.—(AP Photos).

### NAMED COLLEGE PARK

The facility, named College Park, occupies thirty acres which is adjacent to Jackson College and Hill-Reynolds Junior High School.

Responding to Mayor Thompson's address, President Jacob L. Reddix of Jackson College, said: "In dedicating this park, the Negro citizens along with all of the citizens of Jackson, realize the implications of the tremendous opportunity that we have for the development of a better city."

"In this city," he said, "there is an equal opportunity for each of you regardless of color, race or origin. It depends on you."

## First Negro Park Dedicated in Miss.

*The Courier*  
Pittsburgh Pa.  
By DE LARS FUNCHES

JACKSON, Miss.—As scores of elementary and high school students looked on, the only park provided by a city in Mississippi for the use of Negroes was dedicated here last week. Mayor Allen C. Thompson was speaker.

Addressing more than 3,000 adults, Mayor Thompson pointed out the many improvements being made throughout the city in Police protection, fire protection, and in recreational facilities.

"In this city," he said, "there is an equal opportunity for each of you regardless of color, race or origin. It depends on you."

under construction, and is to be completed by mid-July.

### HAS LARGE AUDITORIUM

The park, when completed, will contain a 2,700 seating capacity auditorium. This is to be the only city auditorium for Negroes in the Nation.

*Pittsburgh Pa.*

W. B. Fontaine, representing Governor Fielding L. Wright, who was absent because of illness, awarded the Carnegie medal to Henry McClain for saving the life of a fellow worker in 1944.

**The St. Louis Lesson**

To the Editor:

St. Louis tried it, and it didn't work.

The city of St. Louis opened its parks and two municipal swimming pools, hitherto segregated, to Negroes. The result was a riot in which a Negro who took his family into one of the pools was told he would have to leave or his children would be drowned.

After that incident there continued for a few days a series of sporadic attacks by Negroes on whites and vice versa. Mayor Darst of St. Louis restored the segregation law.

According to the *Post Dispatch*, a new committee on race relations is in the making. It will consist of 15 members when completed. Those already installed represent Protestant, Catholic, Jewish religious organizations, labor unions, sundry Negroes and civic leaders.

The Negro population of St. Louis is relatively much smaller than other cities farther south, being quoted in 1940 as slightly over 13 per cent. That percentage may or may not have grown but it still remains far smaller than the average of 40 per cent or more for cities in the Deep South.

So in appraising the attempt to abolish segregation in St. Louis one can regard that city as being on "middle ground" so far as the North and South are concerned.

Therefore, if a city of the comparatively neutral character of St. Louis, with the small percentage of non-white population it has, fails so conspicuously to abolish race barriers by law, how much less hope there should be for legal abolition in states like Alabama, Georgia or Louisiana!

Doubtless the movement in the Missouri city was inspired by idealistic and sincere persons; but they were misguided to the extent that they failed to rightly interpret the wishes of the public. No legal measures, regardless of how theoretically just they may be, can succeed unless they truly reflect the desires of the majority of the citizens who must obey them. The law, it has been remarked, should seek to convince, not to compel.

STANLEIGH MALOTTE.

**RACIAL ISSUE CLOSES****SWIMMING POOL FOR  
A DAY IN OHIO CITY**

Youngstown, O., June 23 (AP) — Racial conflict forced the closing of one of Youngstown's six city-operated swimming pools late yesterday. But park commission members said all of the pools will be placed in operation again today.

Nathaniel C. Lee, Negro, member of the community relations committee of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People and his three children entered the east side pool. A crowd of 1,000 other swimmers milled around and threatened the father and his children.

**Race Dispute  
Closes Pool**

YOUNGSTOWN, O. — (AP) — Racial conflict forced the closing of one of Youngstown's six city-operated swimming pools.

Park commission members said all of the pools will be placed in operation again.

Nathaniel C. Lee, Negro, and his three children entered the East Side pool. A few moments later most of a crowd of 1,000 other swimmers milled around. Lee was warned, police reported, to leave or "see your children drowned."

4la 1949

~~A New Darlington Center~~

~~comes Sat. 7-23-49~~

DARLINGTON, S. C. (ANP)—An informal program opened the new \$20,000 recreational center for Negroes last week. The building was constructed of concrete blocks from funds raised in public subscription.

South Carolina

4la 1949

## ~~Gov. Tuck Releases \$65,000 for Negro State Park Project~~

Charleston, S. C., July 24 (AP)—Governor Tuck today released an appropriation of \$65,000 to start development of a State park for Negroes at Prince Edward Lake, near Farmville, in a move to equalize the State's park facilities.

The money came out of the State's general supplemental capital outlay appropriation of \$1,200,-

William A. Wright, director of the State department of conservation, said the allotment is part of a development program now in progress that will cost \$195,000.

In his request for the allotment Wright noted that the \$195,000 program now in progress is satisfactory to counsel for the Negro citizens who have launched in the federal courts a move to force the State to provide equal State park facilities.

Plans call for construction of six cabins now in addition to the water and sewerage system. Later it is planned to construct a restaurant building, a boat dock, a large bathhouse, additional picnic tables, restrooms, and a for-plant help and some roads.

## ~~\$300,000 Negro Park Project Is Proposed for Rock Hill~~

A 10-acre recreation area for Darlington Negroes, with everything from a swimming pool to picnic area, was proposed yesterday by the County Recreation Department.

It would cost approximately \$300,000 to build the facility on a now county-owned and bounded land near the Seminole and Foxville Run in the Green Valley section.

The recreation area would be only one of its kind for Negroes in the country.

It would offer softball and baseball diamonds, a picnic area, parking lot, swimming pool with bathhouse, football field, and a small childrens' playground.

Its field house would be built in three stages, the first providing storage rooms, office space, and space for handicraft work. Later additions would offer two small assembly rooms and a large room for meeting purposes.

Recreation director W. A. Richard admitted that most of the facilities are not now available. It will be said the department is awaiting the proposal before Arling-

Virginia

4lb 1949

Resorts

*Detroit Negroes  
Want Lake Site  
To Build Resort*

*Source of  
Information*  
Detroit, April 29 (P)—A group  
of Detroit Negro business and  
professional men today an-  
nounced plans to develop a mile-  
long Negro resort on the Canadi-  
an shore of Lake St. Clair.

Retired heavyweight boxing  
champion Joe Louis is a mem-  
ber of the syndicate negotiating  
for purchase of the property from  
a Detroit family.

The site is near Stoney Point,  
three miles east of Belle River,  
Ont. It will be known as "Ca-  
nadian Riviera," according to the  
group, and will become one of  
the Negro showplaces of America.  
The property consists of 150  
acres and a nine-room house.

Irving Roane and John White,  
co-owners of the Gotham Hotel  
here, said the syndicate has put  
up 60 per cent of the purchase  
price and expects to close the  
deal by May 10. *Det. 10-24*